EDITORIAL

10 WAYS TO PROTECT DEMOCRACY

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10 Things We Can All Do to Protect Democracy

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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SPORTS

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Super Fight Sunday

La gran inauguración de La Joya Gardens trae nuevas viviendas asequibles y espacio comercial al suroeste de Detroit

El lunes 27 de enero, la ciudad de Detroit, junto con los codesarrolladores Southwest Detroit Business Association (SDBA) y Cinnaire Solutions, celebró la gran inauguración de La Joya Gardens, un desarrollo transformador de uso mixto e ingresos mixtos ubicado en 4000 W. Vernor Highway. El evento destacó un esfuerzo colaborativo para brindar viviendas asequibles, oportunidades comerciales y espacio comunitario en el suroeste de Detroit. Otros socios clave, incluídos Invest Detroit, Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) y Detroit Housing Commission, se unieron a la celebración.

"Lo que era un lote vacío a lo largo del corredor comercial principal, del suroeste de Detroit es ahora un hermoso edificio que agrega una cantidad significativa de vivienda asequibles para esta área", dijo el alcalde Mike Duggan. "Así es como nos aseguramos de que, a medida que nuestros vecindarios se recuperen, los residentes sepan que pueden darse el lujo de quedarse y disfrutar de esta revitalización".

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La Joya Gardens Grand Opening Brings New Affordable Housing and Retail Space to Southwest Detroit

On Monday, January 27, the City of Detroit, along with co-developers Southwest Detroit Business Association (SDBA) and Cinnaire Solutions celebrated the grand opening of La Joya Gardens, a transformative mixed-use, mixed-income development located at 4000 W. Vernor Highway. The event highlighted a collaborative effort to provide affordable housing, retail opportunities, and community space in Southwest Detroit. Additional key partners, including Invest Detroit, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), and the Detroit Housing Commission, joined the celebration.

"What had been a vacant lot along the main commercial corridor in Southwest Detroit is now a beautiful mixed-use building that adds a significant number of affordable housing units for this area," said Mayor Mike Duggan. "This is how we are making sure that as our neighborhoods come back, longtime residents know they can afford to stay and enjoy this revitalization."

La Joya Gardens project developers are joined by Mayor Mike Duggan, third from right, and representatives of government, funders and community partners for the ribbon cutting. Photo provided by City of Detroit

Community-Driven Development

La Joya Gardens represents a nearly $25 million investment and features 53 residential units – 42 designated as affordable for individuals earning 30% to 80% of the area median income (AMI)

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El Centro de Derechos de los Inmigrantes de Michigan (MIRC) Denuncia Rescisión de Póliza de Áreas Protegidas del ICE

La semana pasada, la administración Trump rescindió una póliza de larga duración que desaprobaba la mayoría de las acciones de aplicación de la ley cerca de lugares sensibles. Desde 2011, el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional (DHS) ha mantenido una instrucción que exige al Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) que se abstenga de aplicar la ley de inmigración en zonas como escuelas y lugares donde se reúnen niños, centros de atención médica, lugares religiosos, centros de servicios sociales y refugios donde las personas buscan ayuda en situaciones de emergencia y para escapar de la violencia, y también en ceremonias y manifestaciones religiosas o civiles.

El Centro de Derechos de los Inmigrantes de Michigan (MIRC) condena esta acción de la administración Trump, diseñada para provocar miedo entre las comunidades de inmigrantes. La póliza de protección exigía que los agentes entendieran las actividades que ocurren en lugares sensibles, y "la importancia de esas actividades para el bienestar de las personas y las comunidades de las que forman parte, y el impacto que una acción coercitiva de ejecución tendría en la disposición de las personas a estar en el área protegida y recibir o participar en los servicios o actividades esenciales que ocurren allí." La póliza reconocía que ésta «es una determinación que requiere el ejercicio del discernimiento". Esta capa de protección significaba que las comunidades podían centrarse en la oración,

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MIRC Denounces Rescission of ICE Protected Areas Policy

End of Protections Threatens Children, Victims of Emergencies and Violence, and Religious Communities

Last week the Trump administration rescinded a longstanding policy that disfavored most enforcement actions around sensitive locations. Since 2011, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has maintained guidance requiring Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to refrain from immigration enforcement actions in areas such as schools and places where children gather, health care facilities, places of worship, social service and shelter facilities where people seek aid in emergency situations and to escape violence, as well as religious or civil ceremonies and demonstrations.

The Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) condemns this action from the Trump administration designed to stoke fear among immigrant communities. The protective policy prompted agents to understand the activities that take place in sensitive locations, and "the importance of those activities to the well-being of people and the communities of which they are a part, and the impact an enforcement action would have on people's willingness to be in the protected area and receive or engage in the essential services or activities that occur there." The policy acknowledged this "is a determination that requires the exercise of judgment." This layer of protection meant that communities could focus on prayer, healing, and learning rather than worry about enforcement actions in these few places. Doing away with the policy may endanger public safety and health.

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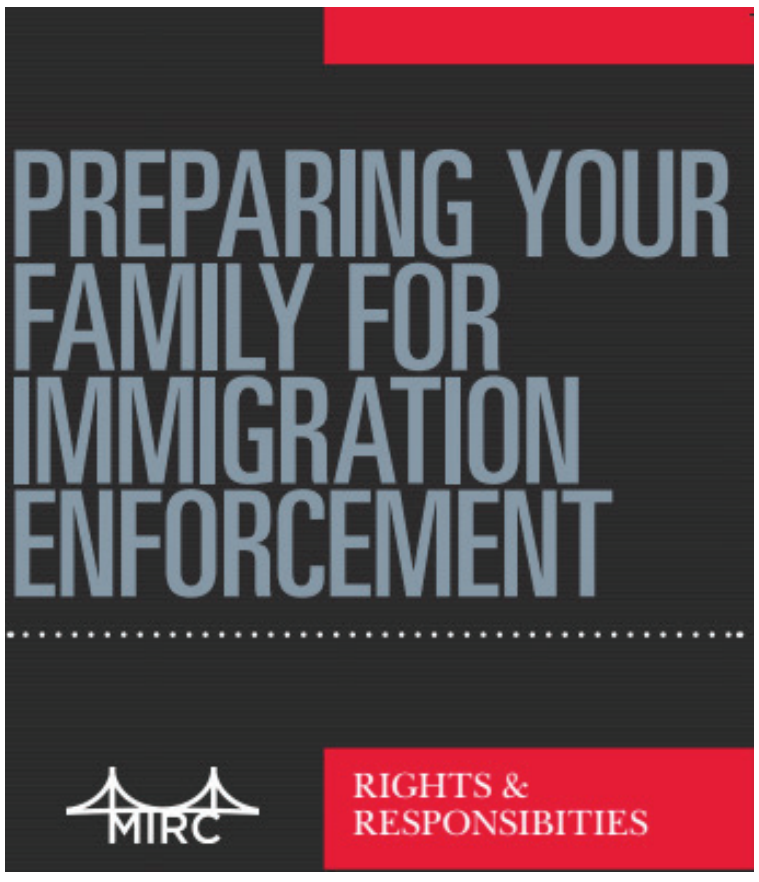

La Joya Gardens Grand Opening

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Renderings provided by SDBA

– and 11 market-rate apartments. Rents for the affordable units start at approximately $540 per month for a one-bedroom. The development also includes over 6,000 square feet of retail space, which will house local businesses catering to the neighborhood's needs.

"The opening of La Joya Gardens is a milestone for Southwest Detroit, showcasing the power of collaboration and the resilience of our community," said Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din, president & CEO, SDBA. "This development goes beyond providing affordable housing and retail spaces. It creates opportunities for connection and growth that reflect the spirit of Southwest Detroit. We're proud to see this once-vacant block transformed into a vibrant hub of activity and opportunity, and we're excited for the lasting impact it will have on our residents, entrepreneurs, and local businesses."

Designed by SITIO Architecture + Urbanism, La Joya Gardens revitalizes an entire city block along W. Vernor Highway that had remained vacant for over a decade. The project is part of the Strategic Neighborhood Fund (SNF), a public-private partnership designed to support community-driven projects.

"La Joya Gardens is a shining example of what can be achieved when public and private organizations come together with the community to create something meaningful," said Christopher Laurent, President of Cinnaire Solutions, codeveloper of La Joya Gardens. "From its name to its design, this project reflects the voice of the people of Southwest Detroit and their vision for a thriving, inclusive neighborhood." Residents contributed to decisions about the project's name, design, and amenities.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony featured remarks from the development team, funders and community leaders, including Mayor Mike Duggan, City of Detroit; Tonia Patino and Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din, SDBA; Christopher Laurent, Cinnaire Solutions; Council President Mary Sheffield and Councilmember Fred Durhal, III, City of Detroit; Amy Hovey, MSHDA; Maureen Icke-Anway, Invest Detroit, Arthur Jemison, Detroit Housing Commission and others.

A Jewel in Southwest Detroit

Named "La Joya," meaning "jewel" in Spanish, the development offers 47 one-bedroom and 6 two-bedroom apartments, a 1,500-square-foot flexible community space, and a landscaped retail plaza. Four street-facing retail spaces and a 500-square-foot café provide opportunities for small businesses and enhance the area's vibrancy.

Cafe Clark, the first retailer at La Joya Gardens, is a welcoming coffee shop led by longtime Southwest Detroit residents Meli and Eduardo Salas. Drawing on their deep roots in the neighborhood and their Mexican heritage, the café offers a traditional coffee menu, light breakfast items, and a lunch selection featuring snacks, salads, sandwiches, and favorites from other local businesses.

Funding and Partners

"Support for La Joya Gardens is a perfect example of our priorities at MSHDA" said Amy Hovey, MSHDA Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director. "We are proud to finance and support developments in Detroit and statewide that expand access to truly affordable housing and empower individuals and families to thrive in the neighborhoods they choose."

La Joya Gardens is the latest project supported by the Strategic Neighborhood Fund (SNF), a partnership between the City of Detroit, Invest Detroit, neighborhood residents and corporate donors. SNF funds community-driven projects, each of which begins by soliciting input from residents. SNF, with assistance from PNC Bank, funded the community engagement process for the project, and provided $1.6 million in gap funding, which supports the deep affordability of the units.

"Through the Strategic Neighborhood Fund and support from partners like PNC Bank, we were able to amplify the voices of over 200 local residents, ensuring that their insights and aspirations shaped every aspect of this development," said Maureen Icke-Anway, Senior Vice President, Impact, Invest Detroit. "Over $30,000 in grant funds supported these robust community engagement efforts, including door-to-door surveys and hosting resident meetings at local community spaces such as Armando's Mexican Restaurant and First Latin American Baptist Church."

Developers Southwest Detroit and Cinnaire Solutions partnered with O'Brien Construction as the general contractors, 511 Design and w/Purpose for owner representation and Mission Lift, Congress of Communities and LA SED for community engagement.

The significance of the new housing and retail project in Southwest Detroit was summed up by Mary Carmen Munoz, Executive Director of LA SED. "Attending the opening of La Joya Gardens was a celebration of many years of work by SDBA , City of Detroit, MSHDA, and others to bring modern, affordable housing to our community. As Detroit's population continues to grow, so does the need for affordable housing for longtime residents. As La Joya's closest neighbor, and Southwest Detroit's oldest advocacy agency, LA SED welcomes La Joya to the neighborhood and hopes this is the beginning of more affordable housing options for our community," Munoz added.

Living room at La Joya Gardens

Bedroom at La Joya Gardens

Kitchen at La Joya Gardens

Enhanced living room at La Joya Gardens

Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*

Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

Maria Torres-Guzman Internationally Recognized Educator-Hometown Activist

By: Ozzie Rivera

Southwest Detroit has bred a number of nationally and internationally known Latino leaders, though many in our community are not aware of this rich history. In past EL CENTRAL articles I covered some of those individuals such as journalist Angelo Figueroa, founder of People En Espanol and AOL Latino, 8-time Grammy winning percussionist and singer Humberto "Nengue" Hernandez, guitarist Cesar Pena and leading health advocate Ricardo Guzman who played a leading role in advising President Obama's team on what now we call the Obamacare health care system. These are just a few of our unsung heroes. Let's not forget singer-musician Sixto Rodriguez, an international icon who was the subject of the 2013 Oscar winning documentary "Looking for Sugarman". I hope to continue bringing to light some other individuals in future EL CENTRAL columns. I acknowledge I have just scratched the surface in telling some of these stories.

One such leader was Dr. Maria E. Torres-Guzman. Born in 1951 in the town of Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico, she alternated living in Detroit and Puerto Rico during her childhood and early adult years. Academically gifted, she obtained her Bachelor's of Science in Education at age 16 from the University of Puerto Rico. Upon returning to Michigan, she would go on to obtain her Master's in Education from the University of Michigan at age 19.

Her list of achievements was notable. In her early 20's, from 1973-1976, she would become the Director of Wayne State University's Chicano Boricua Studies, now known as the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies. This was a time when the center firmly established itself within the university and the city of Detroit. It was during this same period The Detroit News named her one of the State of Michigan's 100 most influential figures.

Before I continue, I must disclose Maria was my first cousin and that we were very close. Besides our family ties she and I found common ground through our activism in the Puerto Rican civil rights movement both on the island and here in Detroit. During the 70s we were often involved in the same organizations mobilizing around Latino civil rights, educational and community matters, sometimes jointly organizing events. A couple years younger than her, I looked up to her as I admired her intellectual curiosity, her rigorous attention to detail and analytical abilities. We would often have spirited conversations concerning the political situation on the island of Puerto Rico, as well as community dynamics and politics in our own Southwest Detroit community.

Ines DeJesus, retired Detroit Public Schools administrator, bilingual educator and well-known community activist, was one of those students at Chicano-Boricua Studies during Maria Torres' tenure as director. In a recent conversation she noted how important Maria's guidance was for her and other students.

"For the students who were in the Chicano-Boricua Studies program, Maria was not only our advisor but also our friend. She was compassionate and caring, always there for us. She was loving, like a big sister. Maria guided us in whatever we were engaged in at the time, whether it was organizing on campus, our involvement in the student group La Union Estudiantil, or with our course work. As young women ourselves we were amazed that this young Puerto Rican woman had already accomplished so much at such a young age. She was our mentor, without calling herself that. I thought if she could do it, I could too."

It was only a matter of time before she moved on to continue her studies. She landed at California's Stanford University where she secured her PhD in Bilingual/Bicultural studies. Her move from Detroit would impact me. Though I was happy for her continued growth, I felt a loss in the sense that I didn't have one of my closest buddies to discuss the matters of the day on a regular, almost daily basis.

With her newly acquired PhD she returned to Michigan to serve as a faculty member at Michigan State University's School of Education. That laid the foundation for the next and final step in her academic career, as the Director of the Bilingual/Bicultural Studies at Teachers College at New York's Columbia University. In that role she also directed the university's Fellows' program for Master's and Doctoral candidates. She also served stints as Visiting Professor at Harvard University, Princeton University and University of Texas.

Dr Torres authored and co-authored over 40 books and publications on Bilingual Education. During her lifetime she consulted a number of national and international governments and educational systems. When Dr. Torres retired in 2014 from Columbia University, she formed a consulting group TGA (Torres Guzman and Associates). In that role she organized and consulted on a number of significant projects with some of the nation's biggest school systems such as New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Antonio among others. Her work led to international consultancies in New Zealand, China, Canada, Spain, Mexico and several Central American countries.

In her later years she would alternate her time between the European country of Bulgaria and Puerto Rico with husband Juan Olivas, a former Spanish diplomat. After a long battle with cancer, she departed us on August 8, 2018.

As I reflect on her life, achievements, and our friendship I am still amazed at how much impact she had on our educational system. In many ways we are now in a position that we have to strenuously defend these same achievements in the current political and cultural environment. But as Maria and I use to say to each other in our youth whenever we were faced with a challenge, Pa'Lante, Siempre Pa'Lante! (Forward, Always Forward!)

Maria Torres Guzman

Dr Maria Torres-Guzman accepting award from Dr. Jorge Chinea

Gracias a ti, Maria, for laying such a strong foundation!.

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Ozzie Rivera, a retired social worker, is a cultural activist and musician who currently teaches on Afro Latino History and Culture at Wayne State University and social work at the University of Michigan.

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The new park, opening in 2025, will provide multiple opportunities for free community programs appealing to all interests and activity levels. Free community programming is essential to the mission of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy and we are currently working to develop new programs that will benefit the community.

Please help us by sharing your feedback as we work to provide enrichment to those visiting our park and the Detroit Riverfront. We have **five** different survey options to choose from:

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Follow this link: https://detroitriverfront.org/wilsonsurveys to complete the survey that applies to you!

Contact Us!

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La gran inauguración de La Joya Gardens

Con't de pág. 1

Desarrollo impulsado por la comunidad

La Joya Gardens representa una inversión de casi $25 millones y cuenta con 53 unidades residenciales (42 designadas como viviendas asequibles para personas que ganan entre el 30 % y el 80 % del ingreso medio del área, AMI) y 11 apartamentos a precio de mercado. Los alquileres de las unidades asequibles comienzan en aproximadamente $540 por mes para un apartamento de una habitación. El desarrollo también incluye más de 6000 pies cuadrados de espacio comercial, que albergará a empresas locales que atiendan las necesidades del vecindario.

"La apertura de La Joya Gardens es un indicador para el suroeste de Detroit, que muestra el poder de la colaboración y la resiliencia de nuestra comunidad", dijo Laura Chávez-Wazeerud-Din, presidenta y directora ejecutiva de SDBA. "Este desarrollo va más allá de brindar viviendas y espacios comerciales. Crea oportunidades de conexión y crecimiento que reflejan el espíritu del suroeste de Detroit. Estamos orgullosos de ver que esta cuadra que alguna vez estuvo vacía se transforma en un centro vibrante de actividad y oportunidades, y estamos entusiasmados por el impacto que tendrá en nuestros residentes, empresarios y comercios locales".

Diseñado por SITIO Architecture + Urbanism, La Joya Gardens revitaliza una cuadra entera de la ciudad a lo largo de W. Vernor Highway que había permanecido vacía durante más de una década. El proyecto es parte del Strategic Neighborhood Fund (SNF), una asociación público-privada diseñada para apoyar proyectos impulsados por la comunidad.

"La Joya Gardens es un ejemplo de lo que se puede lograr cuando las organizaciones públicas y privadas se unen con la comunidad para crear algo significativo", dijo Christopher Laurent, presidente de Cinnaire Solutions, codesarrollador de La Joya Gardens. "Desde su nombre hasta su diseño, este proyecto refleja la voz de la gente del suroeste de Detroit y su visión de un vecindario próspero e inclusivo". Los residentes contribuyeron con el nombre, diseño y comodidades del proyecto.

La ceremonia de inauguración contó con las palabras del equipo de desarrollo, los financiadores y los líderes de la comunidad, entre ellos el alcalde Mike Duggan, de la ciudad de Detroit; Tonia Patino y Laura Chávez-Wazeerud-Din, de SDBA; Christopher Laurent, de Cinnaire Solutions; la presidenta del consejo, Mary Sheffield, y el miembro del consejo, Fred Durhal, III, de la ciudad de Detroit; Amy Hovey, de MSHDA; Maureen Icke-Anway, de Invest Detroit, Arthur Jemison, de la Comisión de Vivienda de Detroit, y otros.

Una joya en el suroeste de Detroit

La Joya, ofrece 47 apartamentos de una habitación y 6 de dos habitaciones, un espacio comunitario flexible de 140 metros cuadrados y una plaza comercial con jardín. Cuatro espacios comerciales frente a la calle y una cafetería de 46 metros cuadrados, que brinda oportunidades para las pequeñas empresas y mejoran la vitalidad de la zona.

Cafe Clark, el primer establecimiento minorista de La Joya Gardens, es una acogedora cafetería dirigida por Meli y Eduardo Salas, residentes del suroeste de Detroit. El café, que aprovecha sus profundas raíces en el barrio y su herencia mexicana, ofrece un menú de café tradicional, desayunos ligeros y una selección de almuerzos que incluye bocadillos, ensaladas, sándwiches y los platos favoritos de otros negocios locales.

Financiación y socios

"El apoyo a La Joya Gardens es un ejemplo perfecto de nuestras prioridades en MSHDA", dijo Amy Hovey, jefa y directora ejecutiva de MSHDA. "Estamos orgullosos de financiar y apoyar el desarrollo en Detroit y en todo el estado, que amplía el acceso a viviendas asequibles y empoderan a las personas y familias a prosperar en los vecindarios que eligen".

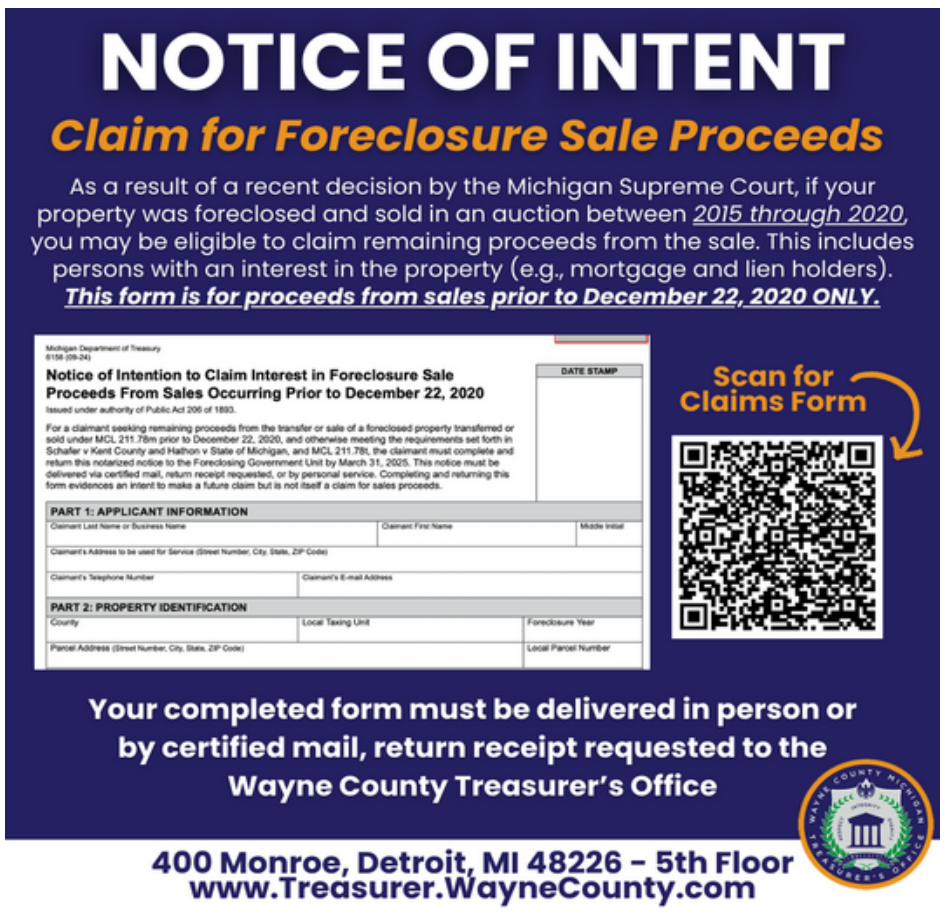
La Joya Gardens es el último proyecto respaldado por el Strategic Neighborhood Fund (SNF), una asociación entre la ciudad de Detroit, Invest Detroit, los residentes del vecindario y los donantes corporativos. SNF financia proyectos impulsados por la comunidad, comenzando con la opinión de los residentes. SNF, con la ayuda de PNC Bank, financió el proceso de participación comunitaria para el proyecto y proporcionó $1,6 millones en fondos, que respaldan la gran asequibilidad de las unidades.

"A través del Strategic Neighborhood Fund (SNF) y gracias a los fondos y el apoyo de socios como PNC Bank, pudimos amplificar la voz de más de 200 residentes locales, lo que nos permitió garantizar que sus ideas y aspiraciones moldearan cada aspecto de este desarrollo", dijo Maureen Icke-Anway, vicepresidenta sénior de Impact, Invest Detroit. "Más de $30,000 en fondos de subvención respaldaron estos sólidos esfuerzos de participación comunitaria, que incluyeron encuestas puerta a puerta y la celebración de reuniones con residentes en espacios comunitarios locales como Armando's Mexican Restaurant y First Latin American Baptist Church".

Los desarrolladores Southwest Detroit y Cinnaire Solutions se asociaron con O'Brien Construction como contratistas generales, 511 Design y w/ Purpose para la representación de los propietarios y Mission Lift, Congress of Communities y LA SED para la participación comunitaria.

La importancia del nuevo proyecto de vivienda y comercio minorista en el suroeste de Detroit fue resumida por Mary Carmen Muñoz, directora ejecutiva de LA SED. "Asistir a la inauguración de La Joya Gardens fue una celebración de muchos años de trabajo por parte de SDBA, la ciudad de Detroit, MSHDA y otros para traer viviendas modernas y asequibles a nuestra comunidad. A medida que la población de Detroit continúa creciendo, también lo hace la necesidad de viviendas asequibles para los residentes. Como vecino más cercano de La Joya y la agencia de defensa más antigua del suroeste de Detroit, LA SED le da la bienvenida a La Joya al vecindario y espera que este sea el comienzo de más opciones de viviendas asequibles para nuestra comunidad", agregó Muñoz.

Traducción Carmen Elena Luna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MIRC Denounces Rescission of ICE Protected Areas Policy

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It is also important not to overstate the impact of this change. Law enforcement agencies, including ICE, generally plan operations that are focused on specific individuals, rather than general populations. While that approach may change, MIRC does not interpret the rescission of this policy to signal that previously sensitive locations are now going to be the focus of generalized enforcement operations in our region.

In tandem with rescinding the protected areas policy, ICE also outlined guidance to officers engaging in enforcement operations in and around courthouses. The new guidance states that such operations are against targeted individuals but can include noncitizens with a prior removal order. The agency also continues to discourage civil immigration enforcement actions associated with courthouses dedicated to non-criminal proceedings, such as family court.

Communities should be aware that several legal protections remain in place despite the removal of the protected areas policy. Individuals are still protected by the Fourth Amendment from unreasonable searches. In most cases, private spaces in areas that are no longer considered sensitive locations may still request that enforcement agents show they have proper legal authority (such as a search warrant) allowing them to enter sensitive areas. People in those areas are also protected by the Fifth Amendment and have the right to remain silent. It should be noted, however, that because Michigan is within 100 miles of the border, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has special legal authority to search for individuals without lawful status on buses, trains, and boats. Additionally, survivors of domestic and sexual violence have specific statutory protections regarding enforcement around courthouse proceedings associated with escaping violence.

The National Immigration Law Center has produced a resource guide which highlights recommendations for affected community locations. The guide can be found at https://www.nilc.org/resources/factsheet-trumps-rescission-of-protected-areas-policies-undermines-safety-for-all/.

Immigrants in Michigan who have questions about their rights can consult MIRC's Know Your Rights resources at bit.ly/MIRCKYR or call (734) 239-6863.

Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) is a statewide legal resource center for Michigan's immigrant communities that works to build a thriving Michigan where immigrant communities experience equity and belonging. MIRC's work is rooted in three pillars: direct legal services, systemic advocacy, and community engagement and education. michiganimmigrant.org

El Centro de Derechos de los Inmigrantes de Michigan (MIRC) Denuncia Rescisión de Póliza de Áreas Protegidas del ICE

Con't de pg. 1

la curación y el aprendizaje en lugar de preocuparse por las acciones de ejecución en estos lugares limitados. La eliminación de esta póliza podría poner en peligro la seguridad y la salud pública.

También es importante no exagerar el impacto de este cambio. Las agencias encargados de hacer cumplir la ley, incluido el ICE, generalmente planifican operaciones centradas en personas específicas, en vez de en poblaciones generales. Aunque este enfoque pueda cambiar, MIRC no interpreta la rescisión de esta póliza como una señal de que los lugares anteriormente sensibles vayan a ser ahora el centro de operaciones de aplicación de la ley generalizadas en nuestra región.

Junto con la rescisión de la póliza de áreas protegidas, ICE también describió una guía para los agentes que participan en operaciones de ejecución de la ley dentro y alrededor de los edificios judiciales. La nueva guía establece que estas operaciones son contra personas específicas, pero puede incluir a los que no son ciudadanos con una previa orden de expulsión. La agencia también sigue desaconsejando las acciones de ejecución de leyes de inmigración civil relacionadas con los edificios judiciales dedicados a procedimientos no criminales, como la corte de familia.

Las comunidades deben ser conscientes de que varias protecciones legales siguen existiendo a pesar de la eliminación de esta póliza. Las personas siguen estando protegidas por la cuarta enmienda contra los registros/búsquedas no razonables. En la mayoría de los casos, los espacios privados de los lugares que ya no se consideran sensibles pueden seguir solicitando que los agentes encargados de ejecutar la ley demuestren que tienen la debida autoridad legal (como una orden de registro/búsqueda) que les permite entrar en las zonas sensibles. Las personas presentes en esos lugares también están protegidas por la quinta enmienda y tienen derecho a guardar silencio. Sin embargo, hay que resaltar que, debido a que Michigan se encuentra a menos de 100 millas de la frontera, la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de EE.UU. (CBP) tiene autoridad legal especial para registrar a personas sin estatus legal en autobuses, trenes y barcos. Además, los sobrevivientes de la violencia doméstica y sexual tienen protecciones estatutarias específicas con respecto a la aplicación de la ley en relación con los procedimientos judiciales asociados con la huida de la violencia.

Esta guía de recursos resalta las recomendaciones para los lugares de la comunidad afectados. Los inmigrantes en Michigan que tengan preguntas sobre sus derechos pueden consultar los recursos "conozca sus derechos" del MIRC en bit.ly/MIRCKYR o llamando a (734) 239-6863.

Centro de Derechos de Inmigrantes de Michigan (MIRC) es un centro de recursos legales en todo el estado para las comunidades de inmigrantes de Michigan que trabaja para construir un Michigan próspero donde las comunidades de inmigrantes experimenten equidad y pertenencia. El trabajo de MIRC se basa en tres pilares: servicios legales directos, defensa sistémica y participación y educación de la comunidad. michiganimmigrant.org

Resources for Immigrants in Michigan
1 Know Your Rights
Find Michigan-specific information about your rights, how to prepare your family for enforcement, what to do if ICE comes to your door, and what to do after someone is arrested or detained.
bit.ly/MIRCKYR
2 Immigration Legal Services
If you are in need of immigration legal services, call us at 734-239-6863. If lines are busy, leave a message and we will return your call.
3 All detainees can call MIRC for free from detention
MIRC
michiganimmigrant.org

Recursos para Inmigrantes en Michigan
1 Conozca sus Derechos
Aquí encontrará información específica de Michigan sobre sus derechos, cómo preparar a su familia para la aplicación de la ley, qué hacer si ICE viene a su puerta y qué hacer después de que alguien sea arrestado o detenido.
bit.ly/MIRCKYR
2 Servicios legales de inmigración
Si necesita servicios legales de inmigración, llámenos al 734-239-6863. Si las líneas están ocupadas, deje un mensaje y le devolveremos la llamada.
3 Todos los detenidos pueden llamar a MIRC por gratis desde el centro de detención
MIRC
michiganimmigrant.org

Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*

Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

Guest Opinion:

10 Things We Can All Do to Protect Democracy

By Marc Elias

The most common question I receive is how everyday citizens can help in the fight for democracy. My advice is to take the first step, start with something small and see what works for you. Here are ten things all of us can do.

1. Stay engaged

When all the news is about Trump and pardons and lies, it is easy to want to retreat and stop paying attention. Don't. It is precisely when things are hard that we must all lean into remaining vigilant and informed.

2. Help Democrats

The success of any opposition movement rests on the opposing party taking power. This is not a minor detail; in our system of government, it is the essential goal. Next time you want to attack a Democrat for being too much of this or too little of that, realize that you are only helping the GOP. Instead, find a Democrat you support and volunteer or contribute to their campaign.

3. Don't do Trump's work

This is more than simply resisting Trump's actions; it is refusing to accept his false assumptions. When he says he wants to abolish birthright citizenship, do not accept the premise that he has the power to do so. Stay grounded in the truth: The U.S. Constitution is clear, Trump is powerless and the courts will reject his efforts.

4. Don't grade on a curve

This goes both ways. Do not hold Republicans to a lower standard and do not hold Democrats to a higher one. When a Republican does something normal, recognize it is normal not exceptional. When a Democrat does something normal, recognize it is normal and not terrible.

5. Believe in the courts

Republicans control all three elected branches of the federal government. They do not control the courts. Yes, the U.S. Supreme Court has a solidly conservative majority, but the high court only hears a few dozen cases a year. And in some of those, the Court has sided with democracy. Most importantly, remember that Joe Biden confirmed a record number of new federal judges. And, of course, there are state courts. For better or worse, we are dependent on the courts to help protect democracy. Rather than assume they will not, insist they do.

6. Beware of false attacks

Pam Bondi is an election denier. Kash Patel has an enemies list of political opponents. Donald Trump has promised retribution. When you hear that a Trump foe is under investigation, be skeptical. When you read about anonymous leaks against pro-democracy leaders, consider that it may be part of an effort to discredit their work.

7. Support independent media

The legacy media is failing our democracy. Every day brings more news of another billionaire owner or corporate overlord bowing down to Trump. The solution is found in independent news outlets that have no incentive to make nice with the Republican Party. Some of these are broad-based news operations, some are issue specific. Pick a few and subscribe for free. Find one or two that you pay to support. It will go a long way to ensure a vibrant media ecosystem willing to stand up for democracy.

8. Use your town square

Every one of us has a town square. It may include our social media accounts, our local book club or dinner table. Use your town square to speak out in favor of democracy and against

what Republicans are doing. Do not shy away from difficult conversations; seek them out. Engage the curious. Educate those who seek information. We all have a role to play, so don't assume your voice is too faint or your platform too small.

9. Prepare for a long fight

In 2017, we hoped that Trumpism was a fluke and would pass. We now know it will not. We are in for a long fight and must build and commit to an opposition movement that will stand the test of time. We will have victories and setbacks, good days and bad. We must understand that this will not be over in one election or with the defeat of any one candidate. This is the fight of our generation, and it will take time.

10. Don't give up hope

Our best political movements were hopeful. John Kennedy insisted that "we should not let our fears hold us back from pursuing our hopes." Bill Clinton was the man from Hope. Barack Obama ran a campaign based on hope and change. Donald Trump and the Republicans want you to give up hope. Despair and cynicism fuel their movement. We must always, in the words of Jesse Jackson, "keep hope alive."

Marc Elias is an American elections attorney who founded Democracy Docket, a website focused on voting rights and election litigation in the United States, in 2020.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis and LISC Detroit announce new Detroit heirs' property initiative

The Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis ("FHLBank Indianapolis" or the "Bank") and LISC Detroit recently announced a new program designed to help resolve and prevent ongoing heirs' property issues in the city of Detroit. Heirs' property refers to land or property passed down among family members without a formal will or estate plan. The program, Detroit Heirs' Property Program: A Community-Driven Approach, will be administered by LISC Detroit in partnership with FHLBank Indianapolis, following a $500,000 grant investment provided by the Bank.

This announcement follows the February 2024 report published by Detroit Future City which found at least 5,525 likely existing heirs' properties — in which all recorded owners from the tax assessor records are deceased — in the city of Detroit. Combined, these properties represent an estimated $268 million in potential household wealth loss if intervention is not made.

The Detroit Heirs' Property program will take a holistic approach to resolving current heirs' property issues while working to mitigate and prevent future challenges facing Detroit residents. The program will focus on three core areas: coalition building, providing outreach and legal services on a neighborhood level, and long-term planning for citywide education and engagement. Coalition-building efforts will focus on system and policy change as well as engaging community development corporations (CDCs) who are supporting residents with heirs' property issues. LISC Detroit will also work directly with CDCs in target neighborhoods to saturate the community with awareness and deliver connections to legal services.

Cindy Konich, President and CEO of FHLBank Indianapolis, said, "We know what the research says — that heirs' property issues are a significant driver of wealth loss in already vulnerable communities. That's why FHLBank Indianapolis is proud to partner with LISC Detroit to deliver evidence-based, targeted solutions that will promote meaningful support to Detroit households."

Rob Lockett, Executive Director of LISC Detroit, said, "LISC Detroit is honored to be a thought leader and partner in the Detroit Heirs' Property landscape to support implementation of community-driven solutions on the ground that will result in generational wealth preservation for Detroit communities alongside our partners at FHLBank Indianapolis."

Scott Benson, Detroit City Councilperson for District 3, said, "Homeownership is a critical component of wealth generation for Detroit families. This program will help Detroiters prepare for the future of their family's wealth through estate planning, will preparation, power of attorney and providing clear title to their home. This funding, provided by LISC Detroit and the Federal Home Loan Bank, will definitely make a difference for the folks who are utilizing this program."

The program will complement current efforts administered by the City of Detroit and the Gilbert Family Foundation. Eligible households will be referred to the City of Detroit's Free Estate Planning and Will Preparation Program as needed, and households with title searches that reveal title defects or fractured deeds will be provided legal services procured by LISC Detroit, unless the household is eligible for support through the Gilbert Family Foundation.

LISC Jacksonville, considered a national leader in the field of heirs' rights since 2021, will also provide support and technical assistance to LISC Detroit.

In tandem with this program, FHLBank Indianapolis will be convening a small advisory committee of local financial institutions to both understand the heirs' related challenges facing Detroit households and think creatively on how to support the preservation of homeownership and generational wealth.

More information on the program can be found online at https://www.fhlbi.com.

Crowdfunding Campaign Launched for "La Joya Gardens Community Space and Café Clark"

The Southwest Detroit Business Association (SDBA) will soon complete the build out of a cooperative kitchen, cafe space, and community space within La Joya Gardens, a new mixed-use development project. This effort will be fulfilled through the anticipated success of a crowdfunding campaign that the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and the SDBA announced this week, which is being offered through the Michigan-based crowdfunding platform Patronicity.

If the campaign reaches its crowdfunding goal of $45,000 by March 28, the project will win a matching grant with funds made possible by MEDC's Public Spaces Community Places program. For project details and to donate, please visit: patronicity.com/cafeclark.

"La Joya Gardens and Café Clark will complete a welcoming and hyperlocal public space created by Detroit natives to meet community needs," said MEDC Regional Prosperity Managing Director Paula Holtz. "We are pleased to support and provide resources for this project through our Public Spaces Community Places program."

This campaign will allow SDBA to complete the community kitchen and community cafe, Café Clark.

Café Clark will fill the need for a cafe that serves as a community gathering space and is the brainchild of lifelong locals Melisa Hernandez and Eduardo Salas. Café Clark will serve as a community space for residents of Southwest Detroit, providing traditional coffee menu items, offering breakfast and lunch items, as well as an expansive space where community residents can meet and connect. La Joya Gardens is excited to bring this community space, a coffee shop, and close a void felt when the area lost Cafe Con Leche, a neighborhood favorite coffee shop.

$45,000 goal to win matching grant through MEDC's Public Spaces Community Places initiative

"We are incredibly grateful for the support of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's Public Spaces Community Places program, which will help bring the La Joya Gardens Community Space and Café Clark to life," said Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din, President & CEO of Southwest Detroit Business Association. "The funds raised through this campaign, along with the MEDC's matching grant, will help us create a space that fosters creativity, entrepreneurship, and community connection in Southwest Detroit. We look forward to launching this initiative and are thankful for MEDC's continued dedication to revitalizing neighborhoods across Michigan."

Cafe Clark is the brainchild of Melisa Hernandez and Eduardo Salas.

Public Spaces Community Places is a collaborative effort of the MEDC, the Michigan Municipal League, and Patronicity, in which local residents can use crowdfunding to be part of the development of strategic projects in their communities and be backed with a matching grant from MEDC. Communities, nonprofits, and other business entities can apply at https://patronicity.com/puremichigan.

"Mixed-use developments like we're seeing in the La Joya Gardens are a wonderful way to foster collaboration and connection within communities," said Dan Gilmartin, CEO and Executive Director of the Michigan Municipal League. "This project will create a versatile and dynamic 'third space' that will elevate the vibrancy and culture of Southwest Detroit."

Completed La Joya Gardens on W. Vernor Hwy. just east of Clark Park.

La Joya Gardens community space. Rendering credit: Sitio

Help Us Reach Our Goal

We need to raise $45,000 to help cover project costs associated with building out the kitchen and cafe space, and furnishing the community space, which will be operated by Cafe Clark. This allows us to bring a space to SW Detroit that the community can be proud of. The following elements will be completed with this campaign:

- Sectional Seating, Coffee Bistro Tables, Chairs, and Plants: Funds from this campaign will be used for purchasing furniture for the community lounge area, including sectionals, coffee tables, bistro tables, chairs, and a longer tall table-top with outlets, intended for working remote.
- Electrical & Outlets: Funds from this campaign will go towards costs associated with electrical needs for the kitchen and cafe.
- Plumbing for Kitchen and Cafe Space: Funds from this campaign will also go towards building out the plumbing in the kitchen and cafe space, to support a three-compartment sink, hand wash sinks, and grease traps.
- Flooring, Wall Paneling, and Ceiling
- Estimated Additional Project Contractor Costs: labor costs associated with performing all of the project buildout items.

Your support will help us transform this space into a thriving hub that benefits everyone in the community.

More about Cafe Clark, Meli, and Eduardo

Both Meli and Eduardo are longtime residents of SW Detroit, having grown up near Clark Park, and attended all of grade school in Detroit. The two of them will champion Cafe Clark and are very familiar with the area, what it was and how it's changed, and with that are excited to have the opportunity to bring a new coffee shop to their childhood neighborhood and home.

Cafe Clark will offer a traditional coffee menu, and draw inspiration from Meli and Eduardo's Mexican background. The cafe will also offer light breakfast items, along with a lunch menu, offering snacks, salads, and sandwiches, as well as popular items from other local businesses.

The cafe aims to serve local residents throughout SW Detroit, and also host programming in partnership with SDBA, local artists, businesses, and organizations offering local resources.

Meli has over 20 years of experience working in the food service industry, having worked in her family's Mexican restaurant, Plaza Mexico, and now managing it alongside her family. Eduardo has over 13 years of experience in operations and technology, working in global enterprise consulting, start-ups, non-profits (Association of Latino Professionals For America), and along the way exploring a coffee venture with Tuguava Coffee.

The Public Spaces Community Places initiative started in 2014 with MEDC providing matched funding of up to $50,000 for community improvement projects throughout Michigan. As of January 21, 2025, MEDC has provided more than $13.6 million in matching grants. Since the launch of the program, 397 projects have been successful in reaching their goal, with more than $15.4 million raised from 73,843 individual donors. Communities have a 97 percent success rate in achieving their goals and earning matching funds.

About Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)
The Michigan Economic Development Corporation is the state's marketing arm and lead advocate for business development, job awareness and community development with the focus on growing Michigan's economy. For more information on the MEDC and our initiatives, visit www.MichiganBusiness.org. For Pure Michigan® tourism information, your trip begins at www.michigan.org. Join the conversation on: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter.

MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Special World's Cultures

Seville, Spain

Seville is a city in the south of Spain, capital of the province of Andalusia. The city centre is one of the ten most important in all of Europe. Known for its arabesque architecture, its reddish colours, its jasmine aroma that fills the city's winds along with the art and music due to its cosmopolitan population.

Over the centuries and millennia it has established itself as a great port and one of the most important

maritime commercial centres in the interior of Spain thanks to the access that the Guadalquivir River gives it to the Atlantic Ocean, which is less than 100 kilometres away.

Known for its great influence with respect to what is understood as the identity of Spain, such as flamenco music and dance. The arches, gardens and mosaics give the city an exceptional beauty along with its archways.

Recipe: Sevillian Fried Fish, José Antonio Pérez Robleda

Ingredients:

2 pounds of boneless fish in thick fillets
1 clove of garlic, minced and peeled
1 teaspoon of oregano
1 teaspoon of cumin
1 teaspoon of allspice
2 tablespoons of salt
1 cup of vinegar
3 cups of water
1 cup of oil
1 cup of wheat flour, either whole or white; you can also mix in breadcrumbs or flour. In any case, if possible, use "fish flour".

Preparation:

Add the minced garlic, oregano, cumin, teaspoon of paprika or allspice, salt, vinegar and water to a container; add the fish to the mixture and leave to marinate for 1 to 3 days in the refrigerator.

Once the fish has been left to marinate, it is strained and left to drain to release all the liquid. When the fish has released the excess liquid from the marinade, it is dredged in flour; it is shaken a little to release the excess flour and left to rest for half an hour on the flour.

Heat the oil in a deep-frying pan.

The fish is dredged in flour again and then placed in the hot oil to fry. It is removed when it has taken on a golden colour.

Serve on a plate and squeeze a little lemon juice on top. It can be accompanied with aioli or garlic dressing.

Note: It can be made with other seafood.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

José Antonio Pérez-Robleda: Poet

José Antonio Pérez-Robleda is a poet, educator, philosopher, father and a passionate cook. He was born in Seville, Spain, in 1980 and spent much of his life in the Rafael Alberti Municipal Public Library in Camas, Seville; where, in addition to being a reader, he was a volunteer and librarian.

Author of seven books, including the collection of poems *Mitología íntima* (Ediciones RIALP 2015) and the illustrated album *Malintzin: la mujer palabra* (ladue - edelvives 2023). Second prize in the Adonais Prize for Young Poetry Spain 2014.

For more than ten years he has been trying to improve the world by transforming education and he declares himself a firm defender of the technology that unites people.

In 2024, with the aim of giving greater diffusion to poetry, he founded the podcast **Nada dos veces,** in which he interviews poets to make poetry from different parts of the world known. His podcast is available on Spotify and Youtube. His website is: http://www.nadadosveces.com

The "it could have been"

To make room for progress
they flooded the village,
mobilized the locals,
gave out precise instructions:
they had to take everything that floated.
Even so, the day after
there were hundreds of objects
that floated for months:
doors stuck for years
drawers that could not be opened,
portraits of forgotten relatives,
even a coffin floated for days
without anyone claiming it.

The last thing to sink
was a boot without spurs.

Even today,
once a year, they open the dam
and the locals' barges
run to find their old houses
sometimes with their children
sometimes with their grandchildren
sometimes alone,
without their soul.

Some
dive in search of treasures,
others can be heard shouting:

—there, there, the roof has not fallen yet.
—you can still see the red door.
—That was your aunt's kitchen.
—That's my room.
—That elm tree bore pears.

When evening falls, the boats return
and the dam hides the town again
and hundreds of "it could have been" remain
floating in the water.

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Sevilla, España

Sevilla, España

Sevilla es una ciudad del sur de España, capital de la provincia de Andalucía. El casco de la ciudad es uno de los diez más importantes de todo Europa. Conocida por su arquitectura arabesca, sus colores rojizos, su aroma a jazmín que inunda los vientos de la ciudad junto con el arte y la música debido a su población cosmopolita.

Con el paso de los siglos y milenios se ha consolidado como un gran puerto y uno de los centros comerciales marítimos más importantes al interior de España gracias al acceso que le da el río Guadalquivir al Océano Atlántico, el cual se encuentra a menos de 100 kilómetros.

Conocida por su gran influencia con respecto a lo que se entiende como la identidad de España, como es el la música y danza flamenca. Los arcos, jardines y mosaicos dotan de una excepcional belleza a la ciudad junto con su arquería.

Receta: Pescaíto Frito sevillano, José Antonio Pérez Robleda

Ingredientes

2 libras de pescado sin espinas en filetes gruesos
1 diente de ajo picado sin cáscara
1 cucharadita de orégano
1 cucharadita de comino entero
1 cucharadita de pimentón o pimienta gorda
2 cucharadas de sal
1 taza de vinagre
3 tazas de agua
1 taza de aceite
1 taza de harina de trigo ya sea integral o blanca.

Preparación:

1. Se agregan en un recipiente el ajo picado, el orégano, el comino, la cucharadita de pimentó o pimienta gorda, la sal, el vinagre y el agua; a la mezcla se le agrega el pescado y se deja macerar de 1 a 3 días en el refrigerador.

2. Una vez que se ha dejado macerar el pescado, se cuela y se deja escurrir para que suelte todo el líquido.

3. Cuando el pescado haya soltado el líquido excedente de la maceración, se pasa por la harina; se sacude un poco para que suelte el exceso de harina y se deja reposar media hora sobre la harina.

4. Se pone a calentar el aceite en un sartén hondo.

5. El pescado se vuelve a pasar por la harina y luego se echa al aceite caliente para que se fría. Se saca cuando a tomado un color dorado.

6. Se sirve en un plato y se le exprime un poco de limón amarillo encima. Se puede acompañar con un alioli o aderezo de ajo.

Nota: Se pude preparar con otros mariscos, como aros de calamar, camarones,

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL
Hispanic News

José Antonio Pérez-Robleda: Poeta

José Antonio Pérez-Robleda es poeta, educador, filósofo, papá y apasionado cocinero. Nació en Sevilla España en 1980 y pasó gran parte de su vida en la Biblioteca Pública Municipal Rafael Alberti, en Camas, Sevilla; donde además de lector, fue voluntario y bibliotecario.

Autor de siete libros, entre ellos el poemario *Mitología íntima* (Ediciones RIALP 2015) y el álbum ilustrado *Malintzin: la mujer palabra* (Iadue - edelvives 2023). Accésit del premio Adonais de poesía joven España 2014.

Desde hace más de diez años está intentando mejorar el mundo transformando la educación y se declara firme defensor de la tecnología que une a las personas.

En 2024 con el propósito de dar mayor difusión a la poesía fundó el podcast **Nada dos veces**, en el que se entrevista con poetas dando a conocer la poesía de diferentes partes de mundo. Su podcast está disponible en Spotify y Youtube. Su página es: http://www.nadadosveces.com

Los hubiera

Para hacer espacio al progreso
inundaron la aldea,
movilizaron a los lugareños,
entregaron instrucciones precisas:
debían llevarse cuanto flotara.
Aun así, el día después
hubo cientos de objetos
que flotaron por meses:
puertas atoradas por años
cajones que no pudieron abrirse,
retratos de familiares olvidados,
hasta un ataúd flotó días
sin que nadie lo reclamase.

Lo último que se hundió
fue una bota sin espuelas.

Todavía hoy,
una vez al año, abren la represa
y las barcazas de los lugareños
corren a buscar sus antiguas casas
a veces con sus hijos
a veces con sus nietos
a veces solos,
sin su alma.

Algunos
se sumergen en busca de tesoros,
a otros se les oye gritando:

—ahí, ahí, aún no se cae el techo.
—aún se ve la puerta roja.
—esa era la cocina de tu tía.
—ese es mi cuarto.
—ese olmo daba peras.

Al caer la tarde, vuelven las barcas
y la presa esconde otra vez el pueblo
y quedan flotando en el agua
cientos de hubiera.

Super Fight Sunday !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos provided by Salita Promotions

Salita Promotions will be presenting Super Fight Sunday, on Sunday, February 2nd, at the Dort Financial Center, in Flint, with 10 bouts during the event, with 5 featuring women boxers. The main event will feature Claressa Shields vs. Danille Perkins. Super Fight Sunday will be televised on DAZN, Super Fight Sunday will begin at 5:30 pm. For Tickets, please visit etix.com

Photos below are some of the bouts that will take place during Super Fight Sunday, at the Dort Financial Center, in Flint

Time To Fill Out The Roster

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

With six weeks to go before Detroit City FC opens the 2025 USL Championship season, Le Rouge still has a number of roster spots open. While the retirement of club legend goalkeeper Nate Steinwascher shook supporters, the club had anticipated his departure with the signing of Carlos Saldana. The experienced Saldana played quite of bit in 2024 with no drop off in quality. Carlos Herrera joined the club in December from Monterey Bay to compete with Saldana.

The club has also filled in the defense. Captain Stephen Carroll and his regular partners Michael Bryant, Devon Amoo-Mensah, and Alex Villanueva are all ready to go with reserves already signed ahead of training camp.

Where the club remains thin is midfield and forward. The biggest absence going into the new season will be Maxi Rodriguez. After four excellent seasons, the team's most dangerous midfielder left for Rhode Island FC. He will join a team that rebounded from a rocky start to advance all the way to the 2024 USL Championship final last year. For Rhode Island, Rodriguez could be the final piece that puts them over the top. His departure means DCFC has a major hole to fill.

There are gaps in the forward line as well. Ben Morris, who tied Rodriguez with 10 goals last year, returns with a new contract, but the production level drops of significantly after that. The club has to look for players who can create and score goals. The process started last week when coach Danny Dichio and Director of Football Trevor James held local tryouts. Most likely any players retained from there will fill out the reserve team and even the academy sides.

DCFC had better step up the search for talented attackers. The rest of the Eastern Conference has not been sitting still. Former DCFC striker Elvis Amoh didn't go far to find his new club, joining Indy XI. That puts him in direct competition with Le Rouge. Indy's center forward from last year, Augustine Williams, has joined the next closest DCFC rival in Pittsburgh. The Birmingham Legion, who will be City's guest for the home opener on March 22, signed college star Lucca Dourado who had 43 goals in 69 games for the University of Central Florida and former Phoenix Rising striker Danny Trejo, who returns to the USL after a stint in the Polish top division.

That's a lot of firepower coming into the Easter Conference without including the top two teams in Louisville City and the Charleston Battery. Louisville did sell their top defender Josh Wynder to the Los Angeles Galaxy, but they already had the depth to absorb the loss. The club claimed a record transfer fee for a move to MLS, but didn't disclose the amount.

Charleston sold top striker Nick Markanich to CD Castellon of the Spanish second division and will have to replace his 27 goals. MD Myers, who had 17 goals and 3 assists in 38 games last year will become the main man for the Battery, who will still be a formidable opponent.

DCFC's 2025 training camp will have an interesting look with just 15 players currently under contract. Rumors have been floated on social media of new signings in the next week or two, but the club has remained silent. The first game of the season against Miami FC on March 8 is fast approaching. The club has a lot of work to do to be ready. Last year, DCFC had the fourth best regular season record in the USL Championship, but bowed out of the playoffs in the first round. This year, the competition has been strengthening and there are not one, but two cup competitions. This will stretch what looks like a limited roster as far as it can go unless some significant depth is added soon.

Upcoming Sporting Events !!!

Arena Soccer is BACK at the DCFC Fieldhouse this Saturday!

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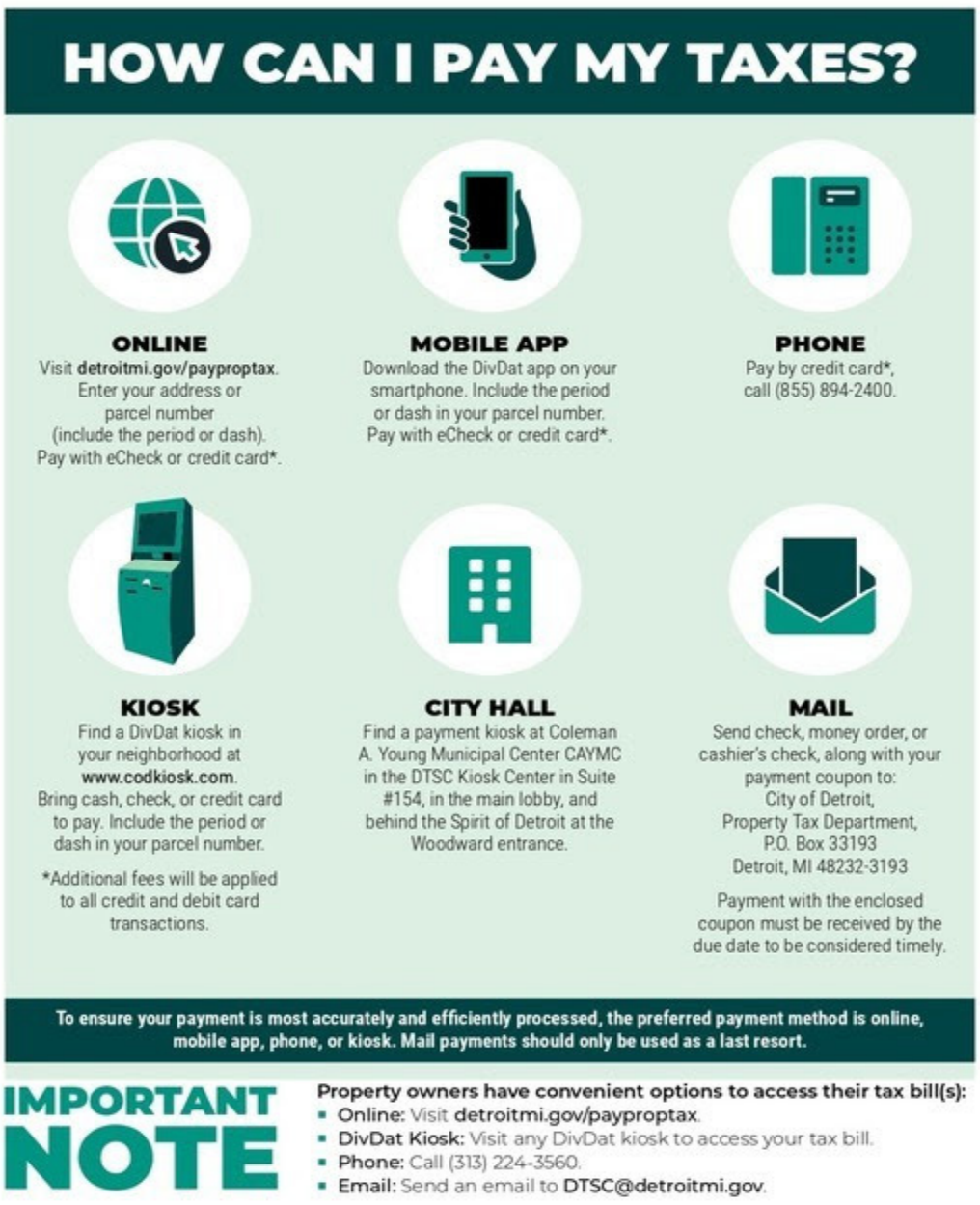
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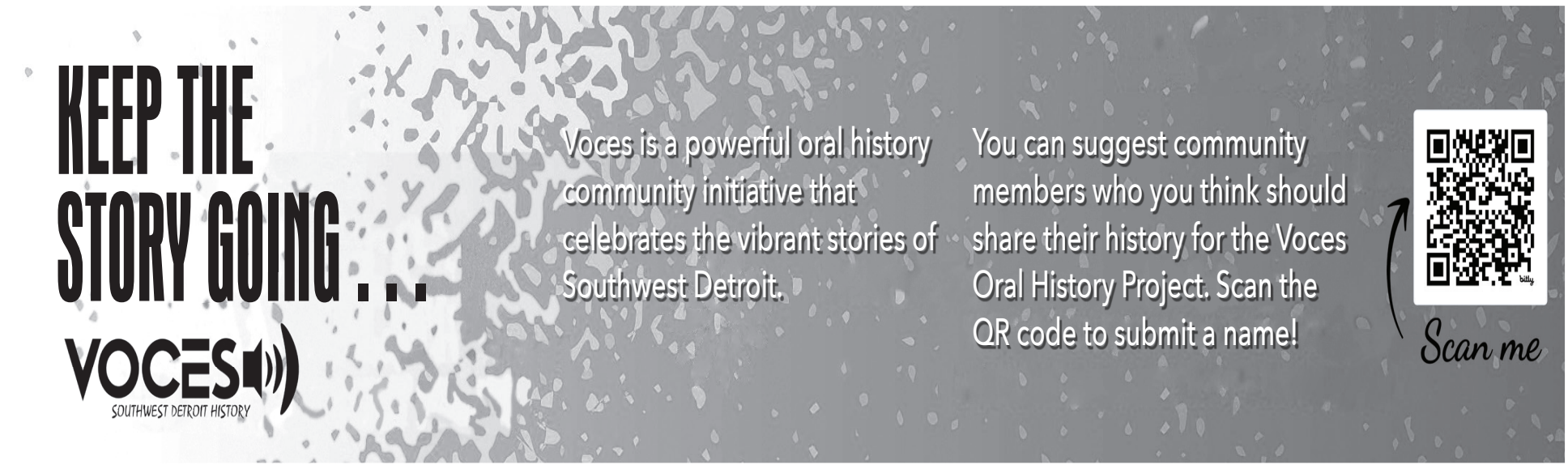
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EDITORIAL OPINION

La Nueva Política Migratoria: Ningún Migrante Indocumentado Está a Salvo

Por José López Zamorano
Para La Red Hispana

Como se anticipaba, la administración del presidente Donald Trump ha intensificado sus acciones "dirigidas" de política migratoria con detenciones en ciudades como Chicago y repatriaciones en aviones militares.

La prioridad de las agencias migratorias como la Oficina de Inmigracion y Aduanas (ICE) son aquellos migrantes que representan un riesgo a la seguridad pública o a la seguridad nacional.

Estamos hablando, de acuerdo con las cifras del gobierno federal, de más de 400,000 migrantes con antecedentes criminales, incluidos unos 12,000 asesinos y 16,000 violadores.

La siguiente prioridad de las agencias migratorias serán más de un millón de migrantes con órdenes de deportación pendientes.

Pero el mensaje del nuevo zar para la frontera Tom Homan es muy claro: "Si estás en el país ilegalmente, tienes un problema".

Las primeras acciones migratorias de agencias como ICE, el FBI, ATF, DEA y Marshalls resultaron en casi 1,200 detenciones en un lapso de 24 horas. De acuerdo con un funcionario federal, alrededor de la mitad eran personas con récord criminal.

Eso quiere decir que por lo menos 500 migrantes cayeron en las redes de las autoridades migratorias a pesar de que carecían de antecedentes criminales. A esas detenciones, Homan las llama "daño colateral". Su recomendación a todos los migrantes: "Deben salir".

La intención de la administración es clara. Ante la falta de dinero para ejecutar su ambicioso programa de deportaciones, las autoridades esperan que los migrantes se autodeporten.

De acuerdo con las estimaciones que Homan ha compartido con legisladores, se requieren al menos 80,000 millones de dólares urgentes para financiar unos 100,000 espacios de detención, toda vez que actualmente sólo hay 41,000.

La administración Trump tampoco tiene recursos para completar su proyecto de un muro en los casi 2,000 millas de la frontera entre Estados Unidos y México, y también los requiere para cumplir con su meta de más contracciones de agentes fronterizos.

El impacto de la nueva política migratoria está a la vista. Entre las comunidades migrantes existe temor, además de que se perpetúa un ambiente de desconfianza entre las comunidades inmigrantes y las instituciones públicas.

Muchas familias tienen miedo de buscar servicios esenciales, como atención médica o educación, por temor a exponerse al radar de las autoridades migratorias.

Las comunidades, los defensores de derechos humanos y los líderes locales deben estar unidas en pedir un trato justo y buscar soluciones que respeten la dignidad y los derechos de todos.

La migración es un fenómeno humano que requiere compasión y entendimiento. Una política migratoria de corte policiaco crea nuevos problemas: miedo, división y un debilitamiento de los valores fundamentales que deberían guiar a esta nación.

Hoy, más que nunca, es vital mantenerse informado, organizado y solidario para proteger a quienes más lo necesitan. Ningún ser humano debería vivir con el temor constante de perder todo por el simple hecho de buscar un futuro mejor.

Las opiniones expresadas en esta columna no son necesariamente las del editor o redactor

¿Tienes una opinión contraria? Escríbenos a info@elcentralmedia.com

The New Immigration Policy: No Undocumented Migrant Is Safe

By José López Zamorano
For La Red Hispana

As anticipated, the administration of President Donald Trump has intensified its "targeted" immigration policy actions with detentions in cities like Chicago and repatriations on military planes.

The priority of immigration agencies like the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) are those migrants who represent a risk to public safety or national security.

We are talking, according to federal government figures, about more than 400,000 migrants with criminal records, including some 12,000 murderers and 16,000 rapists.

The next priority of immigration agencies will be more than one million migrants with pending deportation orders.

But the message from the new border czar Tom Homan is very clear: "If you are in the country illegally, you have a problem."

The first immigration actions by agencies such as ICE, the FBI, ATF, DEA and Marshalls resulted in nearly 1,200 arrests in a 24-hour period. According to a federal official, about half were people with criminal records.

That means that at least 500 migrants fell into the nets of immigration authorities despite the fact that they had no criminal record. Homan calls these arrests "collateral damage." His recommendation to all migrants: "You must leave."

The administration's intention is clear. Given the lack of money to execute its ambitious deportation program, authorities expect migrants to self-deport.

According to estimates that Homan has shared with legislators, at least $80 billion is urgently needed to fund some 100,000 detention spaces, given that there are currently only 41,000.

The Trump administration also lacks the resources to complete its project for a wall along the nearly 2,000 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border, and it also requires them to meet its goal of hiring more border agents.

The impact of the new immigration policy is clear to see. There is fear among migrant communities, and an atmosphere of mistrust between immigrant communities and public institutions is perpetuated.

Many families are afraid to seek essential services, such as medical care or education, for fear of being exposed to the radar of immigration authorities.

Communities, human rights defenders, and local leaders must be united in asking for fair treatment and seeking solutions that respect the dignity and rights of all.

Migration is a human phenomenon that requires compassion and understanding. A police-style immigration policy creates new problems: fear, division, and a weakening of the fundamental values that should guide this nation.

Today, more than ever, it is vital to stay informed, organized, and supportive to protect those who need it most. No human being should live in constant fear of losing everything simply for seeking a better future.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Feeling political distress?
Here are coping strategies a psychologist shares with his clients

Source: The Conversation
By Jeremy P. Shapiro

I began practicing psychotherapy during the Reagan administration. Thirty years went by before distress about politics became a clinical issue for any of my clients.

I remember the moment it first happened: There was a long voicemail from a distraught woman requesting therapy for anxiety and depression in reaction to the 2016 presidential election of Donald Trump. I listened twice to make sure I hadn't missed something. I hadn't. There were no other issues. This woman wanted therapy for political distress.

That was a new one for me and every therapist I knew. But now I see no sign of this clinical challenge abating.

Political polarization in the U.S. is at the highest level ever measured. Growing majorities of both Republicans and Democrats say they consider members of the other party to be unintelligent, dishonest and immoral.

What I'm calling political distress is a bipartisan mental health problem. It is based on a belief that, because the country is in the hands of bad leaders, awful things might happen. Many people experience intense fear about what the other side might do. Both Republicans and Democrats have experienced this anguish, but it peaks at different times for the two parties, depending on who won the last election.

We psychotherapists like to base our interventions on research-based strategies that have been vetted in clinical trials or, if not that, at least strategies grounded in the clinical expertise of master therapists who wrote classic books. There's none of that for how to deal with political distress.

But therapists cannot tell a client in distress that future research is needed before we can help. Instead, we pull from what is known about how best to handle related issues. Here's the advice I'm sharing with my clients who are upset about the way the world is going.

Taking a longer view

Information about American history is relevant to political distress because, psychologically, people evaluate their situations by comparing them with anchors or norms. You compare current dangers and threats with what you've faced and survived in the past.

A Democrat comparing today's United States with the country a decade ago may feel gloomy. But broader comparisons can produce a more grounded, calming perspective.

The Great Depression in the 1930s came with massive unemployment; here, thousands of people in New York line up in hopes of a job.

The U.S. has faced major trials and tribulations over the course of its history. The country has proven itself to be a resilient democracy. Basic information about the Civil War, the Great Depression and World War II yields a sense that the present political moment is not the only perilous time our republic has ever faced.

Wisdom of the Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Change what you can, recognize what you can't.

The Serenity Prayer is an effective summary of research on coping. As I discuss in my book "Finding Goldilocks," the well-known invocation identifies two basic strategies and tells you when to use which one. People need the strength to change what can be changed and the serenity to accept what cannot. Political distress, like many stressors, calls for a combination of both tactics.

Doing what you can means funneling political anxiety into political actions, including voting, volunteering, donating money and serving as a poll worker. Can one person's actions make a difference? They can make one person's worth of difference. You can't do everything, but you can do something.

In addition, taking action about a problem, even if it does not produce a solution, often reduces distress, especially if it brings you together with like-minded people.

Once you've done what you can, it's important to acknowledge how much is beyond your control: The whole world doesn't rest on your shoulders alone. Then you can in good conscience turn your attention to the good things in your own personal life.

Wisdom of the Serenity Prayer

It helps to limit your consumption of political news; past a certain point, you're not learning anything new and just fueling your agitation.

The best things in life aren't political

One basic tool of cognitive therapy for anxiety is asking the question, "What is the worst thing that could plausibly happen?" The purpose of this question is not to get anxious people thinking about worst-case scenarios – they're doing that already – but to move their thought process forward to a picture of how they could survive their worst fear. This is a strangely effective form of reassurance.

Democrats believe Donald Trump's second administration will hurt people. But with important exceptions – such as undocumented immigrants who could be deported – when many people try to picture exactly how their lives will be damaged in specific, concrete, serious ways, they usually do not come up with much.

This does not mean nothing bad will happen. It does mean you likely can cope with whatever does. While Trump's policies might be unfortunate and even infuriating for those on the other side of the aisle, they are unlikely to be disastrous on an immediate, day-to-day level for large groups of people.

A very broad perspective will remind you that democracy is a rarity in world history. For most of civilization, people have lived in monarchies or tyrannies of some sort, and most of them managed to be OK.

I'm not suggesting that people disengage from the political world. I believe it's important to stand up for what you believe is right. My advice is not to put on your rose-colored glasses and withdraw into your own safe space, the rest of the world be damned.

But the main sources of human well-being are family, friends, meaningful work, hobbies, the arts, nature, spirituality and acts of kindness. None of these depend on political systems. We can cope with political distress by falling back on the best things in life.

When should I expect my property tax bill?
Winter Property taxes were mailed December 1, 2024.

What should I do if I don't get my property tax bill?
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January 16, 2025
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February 28, 2025
Final Tax Year 2024 Payment Due

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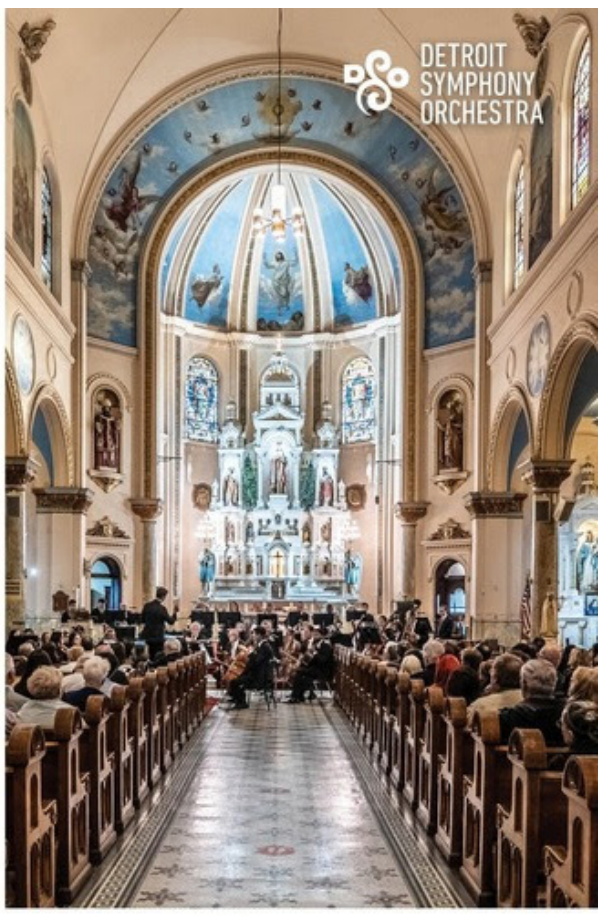

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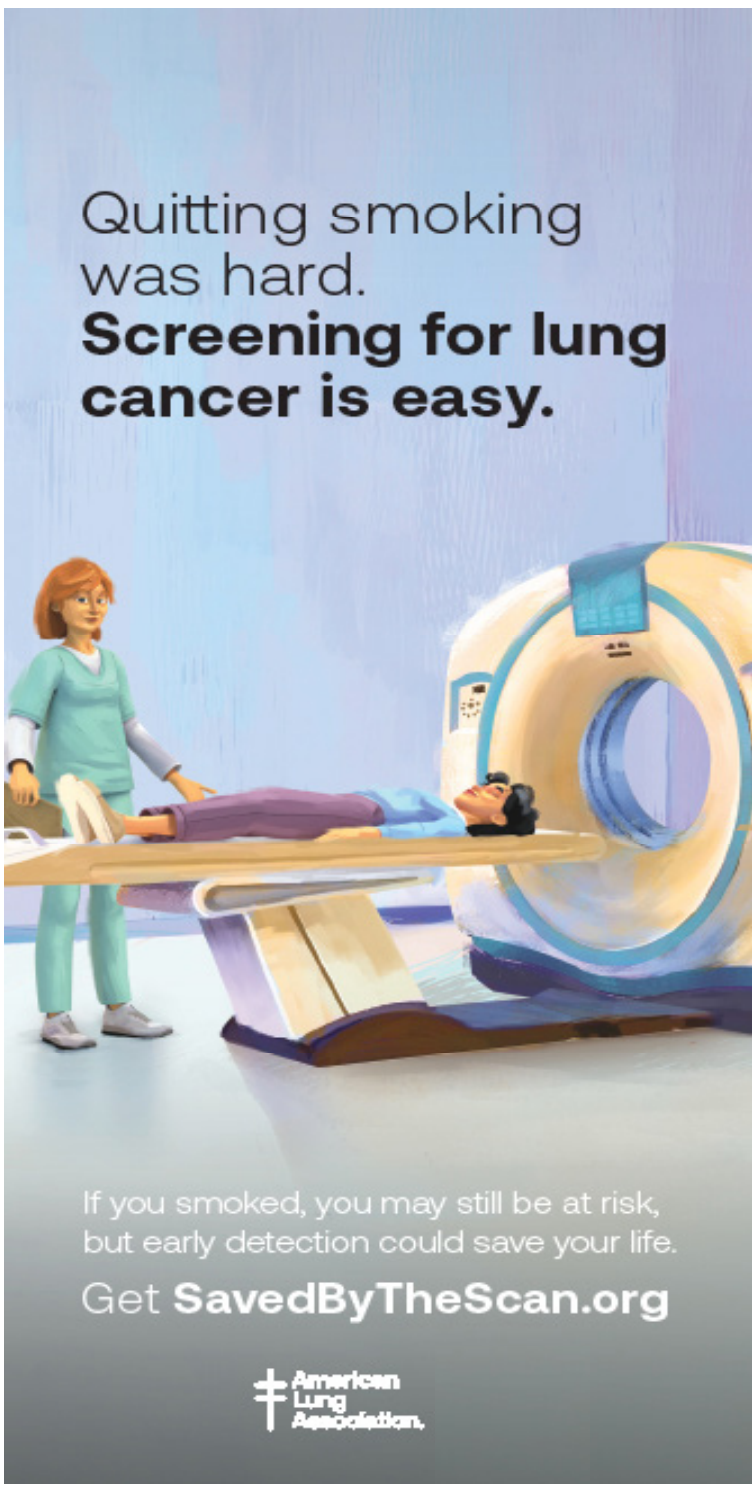
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